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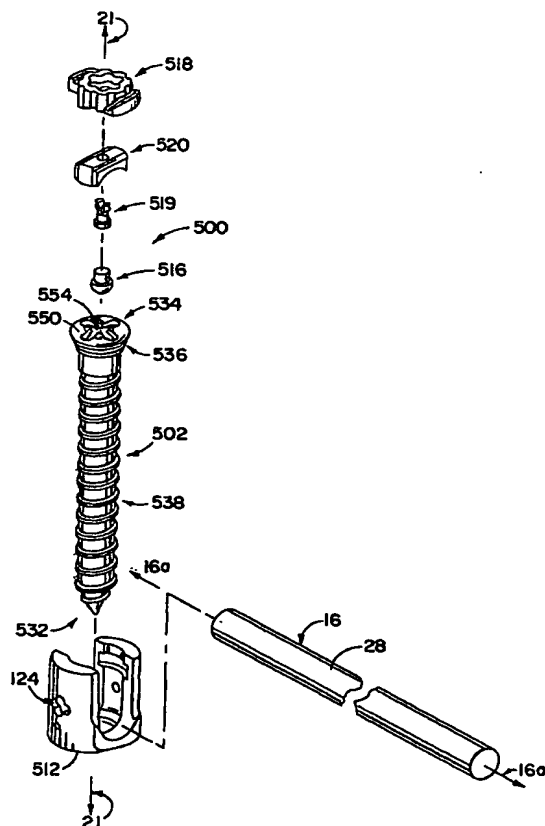
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **LOW PROFILE SPINAL FIXATION SYSTEM**



(57) Abstract: A spinal fixation system (500) is provided that, in one form, includes a coupling member (514) having a cam lock member (518) that is fixed against translation therealong as it is turned with turning of the cam lock member (518) causing an elongate member (16) such as a spinal rod to be pushed downward in the coupling member (514) for fixing the rod therein. In another aspect, the rod is fixed against a low profile insert (516) that seats in a recess formed in the head of an anchor member (502) projecting from the coupling member (514). The insert has an upper surface against which the rod is fixed and that in one form is flat to provide for line contact against the rod so as to minimize damage thereto.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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U.S. : 606/61, 60, 53, 72, 73

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1,190, 678 A2 (BONO et al.) 27 March 2002 (27.03.2002), See whole document	1-5, 8, 9, 21-23, 27-29
X, P --- Y, P	US 6,554,834 B1 (CROZET et al.) 29 April 2003, (29.04.2003), See whole document	1-3, 9-11, 13, 14, 15, 17-19, 21-23 ----- 16
X, P --- Y, P	US 6,565,565 B1 (YUAN et al.) 20 May 2003 (20.05.2003), See whole document	1-6, 8, 9, 11 ----- 16

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

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